

Birmingham, Alabama Ozone Attainment Plan

Effective Date:12/7/01(66 FR 56223,11/7/01)

Background of the Plan: The Birmingham area was originally classified as a 1-hour ozone nonattainment area by Environmental Protection Agency(EPA) on March 3, 1978 (43 FR 8962). The Birmingham nonattainment area at that time, was geographically defined as Jefferson County, Alabama. On November 6, 1991, by operation of law under section 181(a) of the Clean Air Act(CAA), EPA classified the Birmingham nonattainment area as a marginal nonattainment area for ozone and added Shelby County to the nonattainment area (56 FR 56693). The area was required to attain the 1-hour ozone NAAQS by November 15, 1993. After the 1993 ozone season, the area had three years of quality assured air monitoring (1991, 1992, and 1993) which demonstrated that the one hour ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) was attained, making the nonattainment area eligible for redesignation request on March 16, 1995, that was deemed administratively complete by EPA on April 11, 1995. A direct final rule approving the redesignation request was signed by the Regional Administrator and forwarded to the Office of Federal Register on August 15, 1995, for publication. Prior to publication of the document, a violation of the 1-hour ozone NAAQS occurred on August 18, 1995. Because of the violations of the 1-hour ozone NAAQS, EPA directed the Office of the Federal Register to recall the direct final rule from publication.

Summary of the Plan: The EPA approved the additions to Alabama's Air Quality Regulations and the ground-level 1-hour ozone attainment demonstration State Implementation Plan (66 FR 56223 November 7, 2001) for the Birmingham nonattainment area submitted by the Alabama Department of Environmental Management (ADEM) on November 1, 2000. This proposed rule was based on the requirements of the Clean Air Act amended in the 1990 (CAA) related to 1-hour ozone attainment demonstrations. The demonstration shows that 71.5 tons per day(TPD) of NOx emission reductions and 7.0 TPD of VOC emission reductions are needed to achieve attainment of the 1 hour NAAQS ozone in 2003.

Control Measures:

- Gorgas and Miller Power Plants
- Low Reid Vapor Pressure (RVP)/Low Sulfur Gasoline Program
- National Low Emissions Vehicle(NLEV) Program
- Locomotive Engine Standards
- Phase 2 and 3 non-road diesel engine standards
- Phase 2 requirements for VOC consumer and commercial products

Contingency Measures: If the modeling analysis indicates that emission reductions are needed beyond those in the modeled control strategy, the SIP must include adopted rules to achieve that additional level of control. The analysis for Birmingham indicates no further emission reductions are needed.

Motor Vehicle Emissions Budget: The Motor Vehicle Budget for the year 2003 in Birmingham, Alabama is 52 tons per day of VOC and 65 tons per day of NOx emissions.

Emission Reductions: During every ozone season (between June 1 and September 15) gasoline sold in Jefferson and Shelby Counties will be required to have a volume-weighted average sulfur content no greater than 150 ppm and a Reid Vapor Pressure (RVP) no greater than 7.0 pounds per square inch. This will provide 3.3 TPD reduction of NOx emissions and 7.0 TPD reduction of VOC emissions. Gorgas and Miller will commence for the period May1 to September 30 each year beginning in 2003. These controls will provide for the 68.2 TPD reduction of NOx emissions.

Federal Register:

11/07/01	<u>66 FR Page 56223</u>	Birmingham Attainment Demonstration Final Rule
08/21/02	<u>67 FR Page 54159</u>	Birmingham Attainment Determination Proposed Rule
11/04/02	<u>67 FR Page 67113</u>	Birmingham Attainment Determination Final Rule

Contact Person: Sean Lakeman, U.S. EPA Region IV
61 Forsyth Street SW Atlanta, Georgia 30303
Telephone(404)562-9043, Email: lakeman.sean@epa.gov